Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-81 (canceled without prejudice or disclaimer).

82 (new): A substrate coated with an essentially water-free composition, wherein said composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer that absorbs greater than 100 times its weight in water in combination with a silicone comprising a siloxane, a low molecular weight silicone polymer, or diorgano silicon oxide, said composition comprising a dispersion of said superabsorbent polymer and said silicone, and wherein said composition optionally contains an additive comprising a lubricant additive.

83 (new): The substrate of claim 82 wherein said additive comprises a detergent or a dispersant.

84 (new): The substrate of claim 82 wherein said superabsorbent polymer comprises a neutralized or cross-linked superabsorbent polymer based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

85 (new): The substrate of claim 83 wherein said superabsorbent polymer comprises a neutralized or cross-linked superabsorbent polymer based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

86 (new): The substrate of claim 82 wherein said substrate comprises a cable.

87 (new): The substrate of claim 82 wherein said substrate comprises a wire.

88 (new): A method of protecting a substrate from the affects of water or water migration comprising coating said substrate with an essentially water-free composition, wherein said composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer that absorbs greate than 100 times its weight in water in combination with a with a silicone comprising a siloxane, a low molecular weight silicone polymer, or diorgano silicon oxide, said composition comprising a dispersion of said superabsorbent polymer and said silicone, and wherein said composition optionally contains an additive comprising a lubricant additive.

89 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein said additive comprises a detergent or a dispersan.

90 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein said superabsorbent polymer comprises a neutralized or cross-linked superabsorbent polymer based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate

91 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein said superabsorbent polymer comprises a neutralized or cross-linked superabsorbent polymer based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

92 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein said substrate comprises a cable.

93 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein said substrate comprises a wire.

94 (new): The substrate of claim 82 wherein the composition comprises a dispersion in which the particle size of the superabsorbent polymer comprises from **about less than 0.5** microns to about 300 microns.

95 (new): The method of claim 88 wherein the composition comprises a dispersion in which the particle size of the superabsorbent polymer comprises from about less than 0.5 microns to about 300 microns.

96 (new): The substrate of any one of claims 82-87 and 94 wherein said composition comprises a product produced by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said silicone and said additive when present.

97 (new) The method of any one of claims 88-93 and 95 wherein said composition comprises a product produced by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said silicone and said additive when present.

98 (new) The substrate of one of claims 82-87 and 94 wherein said composition protects said substrate from the affects of water or water migration.

99 (new) The substrate of claim 97 wherein said composition protects said substrate from the affects of water or water migration.